

# Southern Standard.

W. D. CHAPMAN, Publisher and Proprietor.  
J. R. SMITH, Editor.

COLUMBUS, GA.

Saturday, April 26, 1851.

ABSTRACT.—This paper is not devoted to the United States, but to the constitution, nor published by it to the state, nor to the state respectively, or to the people.—Federal Constitution.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Our friends at a distance must remember, we forward no paper without the money accompanying the order. Our friends at a distance must remember this rule.

TO PROFESSIONAL MEN AND MERCHANTS.

The Standard is a good medium through which to circulate information. We are prepared to do work in a superior style, and we can accommodate a limited No. of advertising friends. Those who desire our services can find ready attention and prompt compliance with their commands by application at this office.

SOUTHERN RIGHTS SPEAKERS FOR THE DISTRICTS.

The following speakers were appointed by the State Southern Rights Meeting, held during the extra session, to address the people of their respective districts upon the Southern question.

FIRST DISTRICT.—Roger Barton, J. W. Matthews, T. J. Wood, John W. Thompson, Thos. H. Williams, R. O. Beebe, J. C. Thompson, and J. F. Coulman.  
SECOND DISTRICT.—Wm. S. Barry, Reuben Davis, Gen. E. L. Acree, Wm. L. Harris, G. F. Neill, and T. N. Wall.  
THIRD DISTRICT.—P. W. Tompkins, O. R. Singleton, C. R. Clifton, E. C. Wilkinson, and J. P. Pettus.  
FOURTH DISTRICT.—Henry Munger, J. J. McRae, T. Jones Stewart, Hiram Canfield, Henry Sturges, and P. W. Harris.

52-M. BULETTE, Mobile, Ala., is an authorized agent for the "Southern Standard." He is fully authorized to receive money and to contract for subscriptions, and to contract for advertising.

53-The Secretary of the various State Rights Associations throughout the State are requested to forward the proceedings of their Associations to the "Southern Standard" for publication. It is intended to make the Standard a record of the progress of the Southern State Rights party in Mississippi.

54-In the course of a few weeks we shall commence the publication, and shall continue from week to week, to present the opinions and views of all the distinguished advocates of the Southern Rights cause, making when completed, a perfect Vols. Memoir on that subject.

55-We call the attention of the Press to the fact that we have no office in this city, and no office in any other city.

56-The editor is still absent, but it is hoped that in our next issue we shall be able to lay before the readers of the Standard, an article or two from his pen that will raise the lint of the hides of some of the submissionists, or Union disunionists.

57-The Vicksburg Sentinel has changed hands. It has been purchased by Mr. John D. McConnell who assumes the editorial charge of it. With such a man as Mr. McConnell at its head, we can safely say that the Sentinel will lose none of its original unyielding advocacy of Southern Rights.

58-It is said that about forty whig members of the Pennsylvania Legislature have addressed a circular to the people of that State, urging the expediency of nominating Gen. Scott for the Presidency in 1852.

59-Formerly we had 13 States and "times that tried men's souls," now we see things reversed,—31 States and men that try time's soul. Look at the submissionists for an instance.

60-The special election in Chickasaw county, to test the sense of the people on a proposition that the county subscribe \$150,000 to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, so far as heard from, favor the proposition by a majority of nearly four to one.

Since the above was in type we have received the Chickasaw Banner of the 15th., containing returns from all the precincts, which show that the proposition has been successful, provided the road runs within ten miles of Houston. The vote stands 604 for the proposition, to 175 against.

61-On the first page of to-day's paper will be found an article from the Eastern Clarion headed, "who threw that last brick." We think that the South is not quite superstitious enough to swallow it. Probably it might take about Rochester if related to some of the superstitious Abolitionists about that region, who are incapable of drawing a correct idea of the works of nature.—If we could succeed in forcing it down some of those abolition leaders at the North, and then offer it to some of our submission friends of this latitude, we have no doubt, that for the sake of crows they would "acquiesce."

## Glorious Victory over the North.

Out of some 10,000 or 15,000 fugitive slaves in the free States, since the fugitive law has been in force, some seven or eight, (or nine, counting Sims), have been actually recovered and carried home to their owners. Besides this, there has been quite a number of others arrested, but subsequently rescued, we don't say by whom, and sent to Canada. Why was it not passed sooner? It certainly was a great victory over the North, when this law was passed.

## Another Fugitive Slave Arrested.

In Boston, on the 23d. instant, a fugitive slave named Sims, and belonging to a Mr. Potter in Georgia, was arrested. This appears to be a successful arrest, and the submission prints from all quarters are teeming with hallooings. A glorious jubilee they now have—such an one as none but a submissionist, and he of the lowest down—deeper die, could rejoice in. It seems that Sims supposed that he was arrested for drunkenness and made no resistance, until he was carried to the Court-house, where, upon finding out the true cause of his arrest, some of our exchanges says, he drew his knife, stabbed one of the officers and made desperate efforts to release himself, but failed to do so. When the arrest was fully known in the city, the excitement was intense—almost intolerable. For the protection of the court, which had been besieged by the mob, a chain was stretched around the Court-house, and a considerable force of the city police stationed to keep off the mob and maintain order, besides two or three hundred of the military being kept under arms, ready at a moment's warning. Public meetings were held and flaming resolves passed against the removal of the negro, and every impediment possible, thrown in the way of the execution of the law.—Robert Rantoul, United States Senator, from Massachusetts—the man who boldly and openly declares that the Fugitive Slave Law is unjust, and unconstitutional, and ought to be speedily and forever repealed, volunteered his services to defend Sims. After several days resistance, during which time it was proved, beyond dispute that Sims was a fugitive slave, he was delivered up and marched off to the brig Acorn, bound for Savannah.—He was escorted to the brig by quite a number of the city police and watchmen armed to the guards, while the military, though not seen, were kept in readiness for action at a minute's notice.

This is briefly the history of the case. And this is the faithful execution of the Fugitive Slave Law! Faithful execution of the law, indeed! Praiseable

execution! It is the military execution of it. It was an execution of it at great cost and imminent hazard. Just such an execution of it as our submission friends delight to exult over. They now have a chance to trumpet to the world that this extreme liberality to the South and fidelity to the law, affords a prospect of dooming the State Rights party forever. Oh ye State Right men, where are you now!

## For the Southern Standard.

STARKVILLE, Miss., April 23d., 1851.  
The Oktibbeha State Rights Association met at the Court-house, at Starkville, on the 18th. inst., S. C. Muldrow presiding.

On motion the Constitution of the Association was read, after which an opportunity was given to persons present desiring of joining the Association. Accordingly a number came forward and signed their names to the Constitution. In the meantime S. C. Harrington, Esq., addressed the Chair on the expediency of adopting a platform. He observed that there were a number of platforms in the country, namely:—The Virginia, the South Carolina, the Georgia, and to come to our own State, the Lowndes county platform; would we adopt either of those? If not, what would we adopt? For one, he was in favor of the South Carolina platform. South Carolina was not committed to secession, as was often but falsely said. She had acted cautiously—no State had acted more so.—The people there held in the abstract right of secession as a remedy for grievances and violations of the Constitution, but she was not pledged to the exercise of that right until she had consulted with her sister States of the South; in fine, she only maintained the right to exercise it whenever she chose to do so.

The Virginia Resolutions, passed by her General Assembly, he hoped there were none present, who would approve them. They seemed to him to evince a degenerated spirit in the Old Dominion. Look at her! Virginia—proud, patriotic Virginia! regarded as the mother of Republicanism,—the birth-place of Washington, Madison, Jefferson and a host of other patriots, statesmen and warriors. See now how she truckles at the foot-pole of power. The resolutions was unworthy the State, and favored a policy incompatible with the interests of the South. He was decidedly opposed to the Virginia platform, but was in favor of adopting one more compatible with the interests of the South and her institutions.

W. S. Barry, Esq., followed. He was of opinion that there was no necessity of being hasty in the adoption of a platform, other than such as we had already adopted, especially at the time when we are not fully determined on any particular or definite mode of action, and when every day was bringing forth as it were, new events. He was not, however, averse to the adoption of a platform at our next regular meeting, and moved the appointment of a committee of five persons to report one at said meeting. The committee was accordingly appointed.

Mr. Harrington desired the Association to go into a discussion of the 2d. and 3d. resolution of the Virginia Legislature.

Mr. Bunch arose and spoke with much vehemence against the Resolutions. He thought there were none present who would approve the Resolutions, and furthermore, thought it unnecessary to go into a discussion of them. He hoped, however, if there were any present who were in favor of them, they would speak.

There followed some discussion on the Resolutions, at the conclusion of which, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the 2d. and 3d. resolutions of the Virginia Legislature meet the unqualified disapprobation of this Association.

This resolution being passed, some further discussion followed upon the introduction and passage of the following resolution by Dr. Burt:

Resolved, That this Association recognise the abstract right of secession as a peaceful and constitutional remedy for grievances and violations of the constitution.

A resolution was introduced by Col. Love, the purport of which was: that meetings be held in the several beats of this county, and two or more speakers be appointed by the president, to attend said meetings and address the people on the expediency of sending delegates to hold a convention to nominate a candidate for Oktibbeha county, to attend the State Convention, to be held at Jackson in June next.

The meeting then adjourned to meet at the Choctaw Agency on the 30th. instant.

S. C. MULBROW, Pres't.  
R. C. LOVE, Sec'y.  
S. B. HOLLISHEAD, Sec'y.

## Rumors from Cuba.

For some time past we have had whisperings of something going on in Cuba, which would alarm the government there. We have seen several rumors from different quarters that seem to indicate an outbreak. One report is that the people had arisen against the authorities; and another, that there is a general negro revolt. The Picayune attaches some credit to the rumor and adds that letters received at Savannah, from Cuba, state a large number of soldiers had deserted and gone to the mountains, and that some twenty Cubans had gone to join them. There have been also sundry mysterious outgivings in certain presses, which are supposed to be in the confidence of the Patriots, all leading one not to discredit entirely, the rumors to which the Picayune gives currency. The Atlanta Intelligencer says that one hundred and twenty enterprising young men took the Mac and Western cars from this city, this morning, bound professedly for California, but it is well understood here that their intended destination is the Island of Cuba. Several young men at Atlanta joined the company before it left. It is, perhaps, worthy of notice, in this connection, that half a dozen boxes of rifles were yesterday morning shipped on the Atlanta and West Point Railroad from this place.

A letter, dated at Matanzas on the 31st. of March last, says:—"The government grows excited, or frightened, more and more every day. At present it is making great exertions to prevent another invasion. Troops were sent to several places of the central department of the island to be stationed. In every town troops are with arms to be ready at any time, day and night. These guards are changed and reinforced every little while, and patrols wander through the streets all night."

DIDN'T MEAN THAT EYEWINK.—A crack brained man, who was sighted by the females, very modestly asked a young lady, "if she would let him spend the evening with her."  
"No," she angrily replied, "that's what I want."  
"Why," replied he, "you needn't be so fussy. I didn't mean this evening, but some stormy one when I can't go any where else."

## Correspondent of the Southern Standard.

MOBILE, April 13th, 1851.

A card was published in the Whig organ of this City and placed at the corners of the streets, requesting that the citizens, without distinction of party, who are opposed to secession and disunion; who are opposed to the resolutions of the recent convention of Southern Rights Associations at Montgomery; who are in favor of acquiescence in the Compromise acts of the late Congress, and insisting on their strict observance; who are for standing by the Constitution as it is, should meet in the saloon of the Alhambra on the 12th inst., for the purpose of organization.

The objects embraced in this call were so comprehensive, that the hall of the Alhambra could scarcely contain the crowd that assembled to witness the new organization, and chuckle over the jubilee of chowderism, with its dainty dish of fish and frogs, and the gossip of petty politicians "poured in like baboons blood to make the medley slab and good."

The meeting was called to order by Judge Hopkins, on whose motion Mr. G. N. Stewart was appointed President, S. W. Allen and Col. Root V. Presidents, and J. M. Tarleton and J. Rolston Secretaries—Allen and Tarleton being Democrats. Mr. Stewart stated the objects of the meeting, in that peculiar snap-snap style, which has been stereotyped and set to music by the members of our Supreme Court bar, for the edification of those worthy gentlemen who are in the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties. The meeting then appointed a committee of seven persons to report suitable resolutions; and at the head of this committee was placed a man named W. D. Dunn.—Did you ever see him? No! Well then, he looks like a pair of compasses buttoned at the shoulders, and you may estimate his talents by the following anecdote: He once wrote to a gentleman and requested an answer, and accordingly the gentleman sent him a goose. This was capital, for according to the countryman's description of Mr. Dunn, "he looks like a dead goose and talks like a live one."

The committee now retired to concoct a dish that should touch the taste of the meeting, and the President to fill up the void in the corners, presented the following dish of chowder, in the shape of a letter from Mr. B. G. Shields. As the fame of this gentleman may have extended to the State of Mississippi, you will permit me to magnify it by relating a conversation I once had with another gentleman whose fame may have extended also to the State of Mississippi. I allude to the late lamented Dixon H. Lewis. It so happened that I was at the house of this gentleman shortly after the beginning of the war with Mexico, and speaking with him about the appointment of officers by the President and Senate, I said, "here is the name of Mr. Shields among the list of Generals." "That is not Mr. Shields of Alabama," replied Lewis, "but Mr. Shields of Illinois." When Mr. Polk was nominated for the Presidency Mr. Shields of Alabama declared that it was useless to participate in the contest, that Mr. Polk would be defeated, and therefore declined taking any steps in behalf of the Democratic party; but when Mr. Polk was elected President, this gentleman was among the very first to apply for an office, and obtained that of Consul of Venezuela.—What do you think of him? And in the words of Mr. Lewis, let me ask you, what do you think of him? In his letter to the committee of invitation, he estimates highly their respect and esteem—adds to this his cordial approval of the objects of their meeting—declares that opposition to the doctrine of secession, either in the abstract or the concrete, is enjoined by the Constitution, by reason and common sense—that acquiescence in the late compromise measures of Congress is the duty of all friends and supporters of law and order, and especially the interest of the people of the South—and that a wakeful, persevering counteraction of the efforts of the press and of factious organizations to diffuse error and engender prejudice, is plainly incumbent on all parties and individuals. And after twaddling about union and disunion, concludes by tendering to the friends of the Union in Mobile his very profound thanks for their consideration, and the assurance of his very high regard. What do you think of him? He sends assurance of his very high regard to William D. Dunn, Charles C. Langdon, and little Mr. Augustus. Dear Mr. Benjamin Shields! I think I shall hear him muttering some one or two years hence: "Zounds! gen-gen-gemmen," (gentlemen sticks in his throat.) "Zounds! gemmen, there has been cheating round this board." But perhaps the Jack will have travelled up his own coat-sleeve. We shall see.

When the meeting had disposed of the late Consul to Venezuela, the committee returned from retirement, led on by the gallant Col. Dunn, who raised his gun like the hero at John Brown's and poured a whole load through the body of the Southern Rights Association, in the shape of a preamble. Then came the resolutions which embodied the Georgia platform—the recommendation of a Union State Convention to be held at Montgomery in June next, and a recommendation that a Union District Convention be called to nominate a Union candidate for Congress—and finally declared the expediency of organizing an Association for the preservation of the Union, the articles of said Association to be submitted for adoption to an adjourned meeting to be held at the hall of the Alhambra on Saturday evening next.

These great objects brought up Judge Hopkins, who for a small potato, was exceedingly windy; and after he had blown himself out, the meeting called for their great hero Col. Dunn, but some great heroes would soon be born away, if like Falstaff, "they were thrust on every action," and so the great hero declined the honor, and begged to introduce a young volunteer, who proved to be Mr. Requier. This gentleman announced himself to be a Democrat, which caused a sweet smile to play around the rosy lips of Col. Root, who being an old soldier, knew well enough that there is a certain rule among the articles of war, touching certain men who straggle into the enemy's camp. Mr. Requier's speech was made up of extracts from Webster's addresses to the American Union, and of quotations from the Little Korporal's letters to the Daily Delta. But as I have really no unkind feelings for this young gentleman, I shall merely relate, for his amusement, and perhaps his instruction, the following anecdote, which

he may find recorded in history. During the Russian campaign a certain officer was taken prisoner and brought before Napoleon. "How is this count," said the Emperor, "last year I caught you fighting for the Austrians; the year before I caught you fighting for the Prussians; and now I caught you fighting for the Russians. Are you a man of no nation?" I trust that this gentle admonition may have the effect of restoring Mr. Requier to the ranks of the Democratic party.—"He that is not with me is against me," and I defy him to be a true Democrat so long as he belongs to the same association with William D. Dunn, Arthur F. Hopkins, Charles C. Langdon, and little Mr. Augustus.

After Mr. Requier had duly apologized to the meeting and had resumed his seat, there was a call for a certain itinerant temperance lecturer, named Childers. Presently there staggered forward a dirty, drunken fellow, and now began the farce of farces—now with mockish patriotism he bewailed the fate of the Union—then with a stagger he bewailed his own fate, like poor Fillicoddy. Now he quoted a verse from a negro song—then he related a number of negro anecdotes, much to the delight of his enlightened friends—but I noticed his poor old father, Dr. Childers, slipping from the assembly for very shame. Before I dismiss this drunken harlequin, I shall attempt to give you a thorough idea of his style of oratory, and then tell me if you have anything like it in Mississippi. "You never heard tell on [this mind you to the chairman Mr. Stewart,] about Daddy Joe, did you? [Here there was great cheering and laughter by the crowd—the democratic Vice President and Secretary hiding their faces in their handkerchiefs.] I say fellows, [to the audience] you never heard tell about daddy Joe? Mr. Stewart, [here the orator turned to the chairman, who suddenly looked extremely suspicious, fearing that he might be mistaken for the Daddy Joe aforesaid.] Mr. Stewart," continued the orator, "you are an old man." [Here Mr. S. again betrayed evident signs of apprehension—he an old man!] "You are an old man," cried the orator with a screech, "and I am a young one." [Here the orator shook his head so violently that it fell off, but the chairman supplied its place with the orator's old straw hat, there being as much brains in the hat as there had been in the head.] "Mr. Stewart you are an old man, and I am a young one, [here the orator shook his hat] but do you know what the lame captain said to his soldiers when he went down to Florida again the Indians? [Here the laughing and cheering continued for at least five minutes.] Well sir, he told his company that being a little lame, one of his legs being shorter, or one longer than the other he should—" [here there was tremendous cheering.] But I have not the patience to go on with this ribaldry, and I have only alluded to this buffoon for the purpose of showing you the character of an assembly that did applaud about every sentence that fell from his lips. What shall we say of the character of an assembly that not only tolerates, but calls for a speaker who is the out-cast of every society and the buffoon of every brothel? And yet this vulgar clown was called for and spoke—of honor! It was the most shameful spectacle I have ever witnessed, and it must have voided the pride of every gentleman to the very quick, who had gone to the meeting for the purpose of hearing a political discussion by statesmen; but instead of this, a coarse vulgar clown, who always sets decency at defiance, was called up, and made to discourse of honor! and virtue! and patriotism! I cannot conceal, nor shall I attempt to disguise the deep contempt with which I witnessed this dirty exhibition—it was so low, and so mean, and so disgusting. Pah!

I shall give you a full account of the adjourned meeting, and till then—adieu.

RICHELIEU.

We publish the following extract from a letter received by a gentleman in Jackson:—"Footie, the submission champion was completely put to flight a few evenings since by one of our candidates for the convention, C. C. Hooker, in a discussion at the City Hall. It is acknowledged by the submissionists themselves that their political Goliath was slain in the contest. I never witnessed a more complete defeat in my life. The Southern Rights' party are in high spirits even in the old Whig county of Hinds, and feel confident of defeating Footie and Sharkey, and perhaps Johnson. Footie has started out on a canvass, but not alone. Our association at Jackson have sent G. W. L. Smith to follow him.—Free Trader."

EAR-RINGS.—The custom of wearing ear-rings is said to have originated in this wise:—"Originally, among the Hebrews, Arabs, and other nations, the ears of the slaves were bored to signify the obligation of the servant to be hearken to his master. Rings were afterwards invented to denote the perpetuity of his bonds, as a slave who had his ears bored was a servant forever. Thus ear-rings were the badge of slavery. In modern times, they mean no more, perhaps, than that the wearer's progenitors were slaves, or perchance, that the persons themselves are the slaves of vanity and fashion."

## Rise of Fashions.

Changes in fashions have generally arisen from peculiarities in the dress of some eminent personage to hide a bodily defect. The homage of flatterers soon leads them to ape their masters; and once adopted at court, the fashion soon becomes universal. The closely cropped heads of the reign of Francis I. of France, was occasioned by a wound in the forehead which that prince received from a burning brand in the hands of the Count de Montgomery, and which forced him to have his hair cut short. The beautiful hair of Louis XIV. daunted the ruff; which the court ladies adopted with long floating curls. The huge wigs which succeeded these, were adopted by all Europe, but which have now become a mere appendage to the magistracy, were invented by a French barber, to conceal a slight inequality in the shoulders of the Dauphin. Henry II. from a scar on his neck, mounted the ruff; which the court ladies adopted with long floating curls. The huge wigs which succeeded these, were adopted by all Europe, but which have now become a mere appendage to the magistracy, were invented by a French barber, to conceal a slight inequality in the shoulders of the Dauphin. Henry II. from a scar on his neck, mounted the ruff; which the court ladies adopted with long floating curls. The huge wigs which succeeded these, were adopted by all Europe, but which have now become a mere appendage to the magistracy, were invented by a French barber, to conceal a slight inequality in the shoulders of the Dauphin.

"What is the use of living?" asked Jack Simons, the other day. "We are flogged for crying when we are babies—flogged because the master is cross when we are school-boys—obliged to work still harder (and suffer something worse) when we are husbands, and after exhausting life and strength in hard service, die and leave our children to quarrel about the possession of father's watch, and our wives—to catch somebody else." "Such is life."

## From the New York Dry Goods Reporter.

### A Crisis at Hand.

The most sagacious and the most impartial observers of public measures and their tendencies in civilized countries are those who compose the commercial classes. It is these men who have so often to exclaim to their inconsiderate rulers, let alone to exclaim to the frequent interference of full or more ruinous, than their business. This however, of Governments in their present, and therefore, they cannot always be prompt, to detect and guard against movements, which either through rashness or ignorance, a National Legislature sometimes contemplates. Invested or fixed capital is always sure to feel the first blow.

It is to this observant class of men that we now address ourselves. It is to those skilful and thoughtful merchants, whose conduct, example, and opinions are of such immense value to the public, that we now address ourselves, believing most sincerely that it is no time to hesitate—no time to "patter in a double sense," with the difficulties, which are now at hand. We are no alarmists, but we believe the day and hour are nigh, which are to upheave the constitutional foundations of this country.

But a few days since, and at a public entertainment, at which the Legislature of this State were guests, and their great leader was present, and audible, it was announced that in the course of another generation, the United States would extend southward to the Isthmus of Panama, and there would then be neither a master or a slave.—This sentiment was received with applause, and will go forth to our Southern brethren as the voice of the Empire State. What effect this will have on those poor slaves of the Union, which have thus far remained loyal to the Union, time can alone determine. We do not pretend to know even, what an amount of disgust such an avowal may produce in the minds of our Southern friends and correspondents. What we seek to make the subject of the earnest consideration of our readers, is the fact, that South Carolina at this moment is surely preparing for secession from the Union, and whether she succeeds or not, the attempt will be a death blow to the permanence, the interests and the honor of the Union. This is the point we should bear in view. It is of no consequence whether South Carolina withdraws peacefully, or is compelled by force to remain, the fatal blow will be struck. The American Eagle will receive its death wound from an arrow poised with feathers from its own wing. Mr. Seward may secretly believe that this constant interference with the domestic institutions of the South will elevate him to the Presidency, without much risk to the Union, and that the Southern States will finally yield under the pressure of Northern opinions and political necessity. But in our judgment, he and all his friends err in this view of the subject, and that unless they are undeceived, or coerced by the public voice to cease their dangerous agitation, a crisis is at hand, which will involve us in ruin. If the agitators contemplate this, as a possible consequence of their agitation and determine to go on, if they think the Union is of no value, in comparison with the success of an abstract benevolence, to use the mildest term, (for practically nothing better can be expected, even if the question of slavery leads to a dissolution of the Union) then no punishment can be too severe, no axe too sharp for those willing traitors to their country.—What can the Southern slave gain by the separation of the Southern States from the Northern?—Or what the Northern blacks by such an occurrence? Neither religion, nor humanity, nor patriotism, nor white men or black, will be benefited in the slightest degree, by the consummation of such a catastrophe.

But our object is to show that the danger is more imminent than has been supposed. It will not require any concert of action at all in the slave-holding States, to dismember the Union, or to destroy its credit or commerce. South Carolina is competent to do all this mischief herself, and it is this which our hot-headed agitators willfully overlook.

This point which they overlook, is precisely the one which we wish to bring before the readers of the Dry Goods Reporter, for the purpose of inducing them to action, before it is too late. The act of rupture—tenth or ten thousandth, breaks the chain alike."

A magazine may be exploded by a single spark, a ship may be lost by means of a single leak.—The Union will be endangered, if not destroyed, by any resistance on the part of South Carolina. Because, the first act of secession disorganizes the whole theory of our Government. In this case, it will be the act of a sovereign State, it will not be a Shays revolt, nor whiskey insurrection.—It will be a solemn act appealing to the United States not only, but to the whole world, and it will be couched in such language, and be founded on such show of reasoning, as will have effect, not only on a large body of Americans, with similar feelings, and snarling under similar provocations, but on the those nations of Europe that have long desired our downfall.

It will at once be seen that there is no enduring tie among the States, and that their perpetuity is at an end. A howl of demoniac joy will be heard throughout the pandemoniums of tyranny at the downfall of a Republic, destroyed by its own internal disorders, and which otherwise could have maintained itself against a world in arms.

The United States will no longer present to them the imposing attitude of a powerful and consolidated people, but a cluster of broken and disunited provinces, jealous of each other, and falling victims in turn to the supremacy of the strongest for the time. This struggle, commenced by this solemn act of secession, which will debase the Constitution, and invite foreign nations to the plunder of our commerce and our soil, will be prolonged by the active opposition of the National Government, in arms under such circumstances, probably controlled by the fanatical politicians who have produced this disaster. We see how personal feuds, or personal ambition have already so clouded the vision, or paralyzed the energies of the administration, that it has acted for the Union only by empty and unenforced proclamations. But from this position it will be necessarily driven, when the Legislature of South Carolina attempts the collection of the imposts. The General Government having possession of the forts in the harbor of Charleston, and a navy to support them, will of course remove its custom house to the forts and there demand its duties. The receipts of the United States Collector, will avail the importers nothing on reaching the Charleston wharves.

Duties will again be demanded, and the inevitable consequence will be the utter ruin of the trade of South Carolina, or an appeal by the State, to the great European power, say France and England, to protect their own ships, when trading with a sovereign and independent State. It will not be long under such an invitation, before a conflict takes place, costing us our best blood and treasure, exciting every man in the country to the highest pitch, and drawing forth the now restrained sympathies of other Southern States.

Without contemplating this probable termination of such a conflict to the happiness of the people of this country forever, let us see what effect this would have on our commercial prosperity.—The national credit would be struck down at once. Our domestic credit would succumb. What foreigner or what American capitalist would care about holding public stocks of any kind, when the fabric which supports them was giving way? A general panic would pervade the country, and the security and confidence which now give such strength and success to all commercial operations,

depart—"like the baseless fabric of a vision, leave not a wreck behind."

As a matter of course all Southern business, would be abandoned at the North. Most existing debts would be found precarious; in contemplation of being generally drawn into the contest, debtors in the Southern States would cease to pay; bankruptcy would sweep down our merchant princes, while the demons who produced all this mischief would lose nothing. Nay, they would be seen on the bell broth they had brewed in their infernal cauldron.

What is commercial prosperity—what the success of the honest and upright merchants—what the comfort of our homes—what the peace of our minds in their estimation, if these wretches can only raise a tempest and sweep away the foundations of the Union? Suppose the city of New York ceases to be the emporium of our commerce, what do they care if they can have a momentary triumph with a factious leader.

It would unquestionably be quite impossible to carry on any regular business with the South, if one seceded State had the power to resist itself by the absence of duties, or a low graduation of them, the trade which had diffused itself, under general constitutional system.

No doubt such discrimination would be made by European powers, in favor of a seceded State, as would compel other States to fall into a compact with it, and thus the alienation of feeling would be sustained by the alienation of interest, until our industry was actually gone, and our cohesion forever destroyed.

All these results are sure to follow, even on the slightest act of resistance on the part of South Carolina. A personal rencounter between a citizen of that State and a Government inspector of customs, would be enough to light the flame of discord, and plunge the country into a fratricidal war.

But supposing that the Government can, by force of arms, retain South Carolina within the Union. The act of force is of itself destruction to the moral sentiment which has so long kept us together; South Carolina a conquered State, will never again be a zealous and happy member of the Confederacy. Our whole theory of government will be blown to the winds when we have gained the first victory, and the Republic no longer the serene and tranquil abode of freedom, will be an iron league, maintaining itself against the weaker and discredited States, by blood and chain. Merciful heaven! to what a result are these desperate agitators hurrying us. Merchants of New York, that will you for a moment belong to any party, that will obtain political power, will risk such an awful catastrophe. South Carolina, though insensate, is in earnest. Her people have consented to a double taxation; her young men are every where arming themselves; her timid citizens are leaving the State. War begins to be looked upon as the least evil to that State, and the forging of arms and the drill of volunteers have already commenced.

Merchants of New York, friends of the Union! bestir yourselves before it is too late. Your commercial existence hangs on a thread. The sword of civil war is suspended over you by a single hair. Let the watchword go forth from you, the Union must be preserved—but preserved by forbearance to South Carolina, and by an entire repudiation of the principles promulgated by the agitators of the North.

## Dry-Rot in Mr. Fillmore's Cabinet.

Rumors, gathering and thickening every day, indicate the probability of a reconstruction of Mr. Fillmore's cabinet sometime before the day of Judgement. The cause of this dry-rot in the administration, which has been viewed, on the whole, very favorably by the country, does not live very deep—only about as deep as the chances of certain members of the cabinet for the office of President—to which station they seem to be aspiring. Mr. Fillmore proposes to take the field, and Webster has fairly started, with three speeches and a-half and one coming—and Mr. Crittenden hopes to out-general both, thinking he can show leg and muscle with either—or with anybody else who is inclined to run. Tom Corwin and the rest of the cabinet are not in such hot haste. They are taking their pudding and beef now, and will not go into spare diet and training till the approach of the race for 1856.

We shall not be surprised if a catastrophe befall the present cabinet, growing out of the ambition and jealousies incidental to the hopes of its members for the "highest office." The administration has been composed of very sensible materials, but latterly have not exhibited so much talent as during the movements on the compromise measures. The Post Office Department was never so inefficient or so bunglingly arranged as it is now, with Mr. Hall as Postmaster General, and Mr. Fitz Henry Warren as Post-master General. A greater batch of absurdities was never known than that which now disgraces the department. Everything is done at odds and ends.—New York Herald.

CALM BEFORE THE STORM.—The Albany Register, the organ of Mr. Fillmore in New York, holds out a hopeful prospect to those who have faith that the North will sustain the compromises, in the following extract:

It is now apparent, that the anti-slavery element is to enter largely into political contests for an indefinite period to come. The seeming suspension of agitation, is only the lull that precedes a renewal of the storm. The spirits that are now favoring opportunity. Why is it for their advantage to gain a little time just now, one with half an eye can see—he that runs may read. This is the reason of their mastery inactivity. But they take good care that the fires of discord, though they burn more dimly, shall not go out. Every arrest of a fugitive slave is made the occasion for fanning the embers and keeping them alive. Petitions are beginning to be poured in upon Congress for the repeal of the fugitive slave law. No opportunity is left slip, to confirm the prejudices of Northern men against it. The materials are being provided for an explosion, whenever the moment arrives for applying the match. That a settled purpose exists to fire them at no very distant day, no one can doubt who watches the signs of the times.

Those whose political capital consists of anti-slavery agitation, are not going to surrender it without a struggle. They are hoarding their resources for a mighty conflict, which is yet to shake parties and the Union to their foundations.

COTTON.—A Frenchman (says the Cheraw Gazette) dances himself out of difficulty, a Spaniard fights himself out, a German reasons himself out, an Englishman figures himself out; while the poor Turks and Americans grin and endure them, as the unavoidable decrees of fate. That this dealer can regard our cotton makers and cotton passively to the wiles of the speculators and spinners, without so much as a thought of the consequences. They labor incessantly to produce the article but they never conceive they may have any concern in fixing its value. If the price is low, they hurry it to market for fear it will get lower; if the price is high, they do the same thing. In consequence of this state of things, causeless fluctuations are made to occur, which engulf their thousands annually. This should not be so. If the same concerted measures were adopted by producers in cotton, and by the speculators and spinners, they could completely control the will of the production of their constant toll.—Will they not take some steps to accomplish so desirable an object?—Nashville American.